

that Members of Congress and their staffs fully understood the Navy's shore infrastructure requirements. In this capacity, Rear Admiral Smith was second to none.

Previously, he served as the Director, Facilities and Engineering Division for the Chief of Naval Operations where he had a hand in shaping the Navy's readiness ashore, as well as numerous quality-of-life initiatives to improve the lives of Sailors and Marines. A true shore facilities expert, his previous public works assignments included Assistant Public Works Officer, Naval Air Station, Brunswick, Maine; Public Works Officer, Naval Air Station, Keflavik, Iceland; and Commanding Officer, Public Works Center, San Diego, California.

As an acquisition professional, he has had numerous contracting assignments, including Officer-in-Charge of Construction, Mid Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and Head of Acquisition and Vice Commander of Western Division, San Bruno, California. He embarked on his brilliant naval career as the Officer in Charge of Seabee Team 5301, making three deployments to Vietnam and earning the Bronze Star and Combat Action Ribbon.

The Navy will best remember Rear Admiral Smith for his mastery of the Navy's financial system and his prowess in effectively navigating the political waters within the Beltway. His eight tours in the Nation's Capital began with duty in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Facilities Engineer, Security Assistance Division (OP-63). After an exchange tour on the Strategic Air Command staff, he then served as the Director of the Chief of Naval Operations' Shore Activities Planning and Programming Division (OP-44), followed by a tour in the Office of the Comptroller of the Navy. Later, he served in the offices of the NAVFAC Comptroller and the Director of Programs and Comptroller, NAVFAC. After his Command tour in San Diego, he returned to NAVFAC Headquarters as Vice Commander and Deputy Chief of Civil Engineers. Rear Admiral Smith's knowledge of the Fleet, coupled with his unparalleled planning and financial acumen, was absolutely vital to successfully charting the Navy's course through both the 1980s build-up and the post-Cold War draw-down.

Rear Admiral Smith is a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and a graduate of Marquette University where he received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He later attended Purdue University where he earned his Master of Science in Civil Engineering. Married to the former Susan Clare Kaufmann of Milwaukee, he and Susan have two sons, Brian and Michael.

My home State of Mississippi has benefitted greatly from the contributions of Rear Admiral Smith's visionary leadership, consummate professionalism, uncommon dedication, and enduring personality. For the State of Mississippi, he was there to assist in

the disaster recovery from Hurricane George; he was there to provide outstanding facilities support for U.S. Navy bases in Mississippi; and he was there to assist my staff in providing the highest levels of facilities support for our Navy. On January 1, 2001, he will enter retirement and the Navy will wish him fair winds and following seas. On behalf of the Congress, I congratulate Rear Admiral Louis Martin Smith on the completion of an outstanding and successful career with very best wishes for even greater successes in the future.

ANGELS IN ADOPTION AWARD

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, as a member of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption, I would like to commend Senators MARY LANDRIEU and LARRY CRAIG for their leadership in creating the Angels in Adoption program. I am happy to join in this initiative to honor the special families that open their hearts and homes when they adopt a child. This year I want to recognize a special family from Falling Waters, West Virginia as our very own angels in adoption. The Merryman family has been nominated for the Angels in Adoption Award by Steve Wiseman, Executive Director of West Virginia Developmental Disability Council, for being outstanding examples of adoptive parents.

Scott and Faith Merryman have been happily married for 32 years and live in Berkeley County, West Virginia. They both work in the disability field, Scott as a supervisory mentor at the Autism Center and Faith at the West Virginia Parent Training Information Center, a resource center for parents of children with special needs.

They have 6 children, 8 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Two of their children, Richard and Hope, are adopted and they are in the process of adopting another foster child, Charity Megan.

Richard, who has cerebral palsy, is 26 years old, and now lives in his own apartment. Richard is a member of the West Virginia Team of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation and attended the International Academy in 1999. He is also a member of the West Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council and a self-directed activist on accessibility and other disability issues.

Hope was adopted at 13 days old because her birth parents were unable to take care of her. She is now 19 years old and enjoys working as an Assistant Manager in a local restaurant as well as spending time with her family.

Charity Megan came to the Merryman family when she was 14 months old from an institution. She is now 17 years old, and has severe disabilities including facial deformities, stunted growth, mental retardation, and a seizure disorder.

Despite the long hours of care and trips to the doctor, Scott and Faith say

that they have learned a lot about the kind of things money can't buy—like love and laughter.

I am proud to honor the Merrymans for the love that they show their family, and to the commitment they share in promoting adoption. In my own state of West Virginia, we have had a 51 percent increase in the number of adoptions since 1995 because of caring families like the Merrymans.

We as a Nation need to continue to offer our support to these special families. As a member of Congress I will continue to introduce legislation that will build on the foundation of the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act to ensure our children a safe and stable home.

VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, it has been more than a year since the Columbine tragedy, but still this Congress refuses to act on sensible gun legislation.

Since Columbine, thousands of Americans have been killed by gunfire. Until we act, Democrats in the Senate will read the names of some of those who have lost their lives to gun violence in the past year, and we will continue to do so every day that the Senate is in session.

In the name of those who died, we will continue this fight. Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago today.

October 2, 1999:

Dian Bailey, 29, Detroit, MI;
Charles L. Coron, 52, New Orleans, LA;
Joanel Facouloute, 46, Miami-Dade County, FL;
Filiberto Gamez, 21, Chicago, IL;
Lucretia Henderson, 13, Kansas City, MO;
Kenneth Holland, 39, Louisville, KY;
Leroy L. Lee, 31, Chicago, IL;
George Morris, 24, Washington, DC;
Hugo Najero, 15, San Antonio, TX;
Majid Radee, 30, Detroit, MI;
Edison Robinson, 25, Detroit, MI;
Harold Swan, 37, Louisville, KY;
Richard Thomas, 30, Philadelphia, PA;

Ruben Trevino, Jr., 46, Houston, TX;
Unidentified male, 17, Portland, OR.

One of the victims of gun violence I mentioned, 13-year-old Lucretia Henderson of Kansas City, Missouri, was shot and killed while riding in a car with her cousin and two friends. Lucretia was killed when her two friends in the backseat began playing with a handgun.

Following are the names of some of the people who were killed by gunfire one year ago on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

September 29, 1999:

Jeffrey Dowell, 38, Philadelphia, PA;
Jose Escalante, 19, Philadelphia, PA;
Louis Grant, 17, Baltimore, MD;
James Heyden, 23, Detroit, MI;
Jose Martinez, 16, Houston, TX;
Tracey Massey, 25, Charlotte, NC;